



Homicide and Assault Injury Factsheet

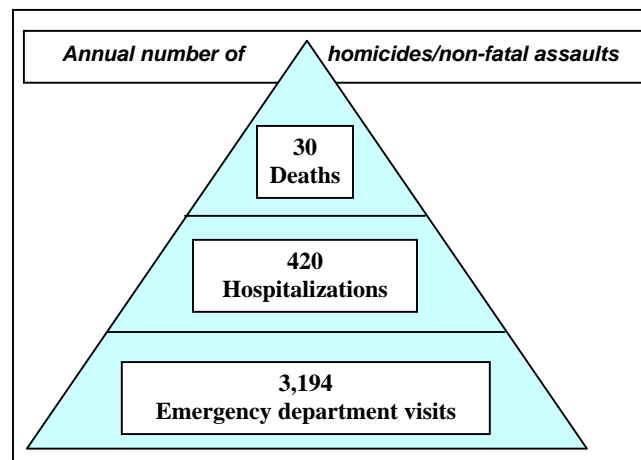
Injury Prevention & Control Program

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Overview

Hawaii had the 39th highest homicide rate in the United States, a rate that was 52% lower than that for the rest of the country.

Homicides were the 6th leading cause of injury mortality in Hawaii, while assaults were the 4th leading cause of hospitalizations, and the 7th leading cause of emergency department visits for non-fatal injuries. For every homicide in Hawaii, there are 14 residents who are hospitalized, and another 106 who are treated in emergency departments (ED) for non-fatal assaults each year.



This factsheet describes injuries to Hawaii residents only, unless otherwise noted. Mortality data is mostly compiled from years 2000-2004. Hospitalization (2003) and ED data (2002) includes only non-fatal injuries.

Mortality trends (2000-2004)

- Significantly decreasing trend from 2000-2003 (from 37 homicides to 20), but increased in 2004 (29).

Groups at risk

- Half of the homicide victims were 30 to 50 years of age, and this group also had the highest rates.
- The highest rates for non-fatal assaults occurred in the 15 to 24 year-old age group, of whom 86% were male.

Environment/geography

- There were no significant differences in homicide fatality rates between any of the counties.
- Hawaii had a relatively low rate of violent crime (42nd in the nation, per 2001 Uniform Crime Reports).

Contributing factors

- Supplemental Homicide Reports indicate that at least half (56%) of the victims knew their assailant; only 13% were killed by strangers. Most commonly, victims were killed by an acquaintance (30%).
- Female victims were more likely to be killed by intimate partners (38%), or other family members (12%), while male victims were more likely to be killed by acquaintances (30%) or strangers (18%).
- Most (85%) of the homicides of victims under 3 years of age occurred on Oahu.
- Thirteen percent of the adult respondents to the 2000 Hawaii Health Survey reported they sustained injuries from physical abuse by their parents or other known adult during childhood.